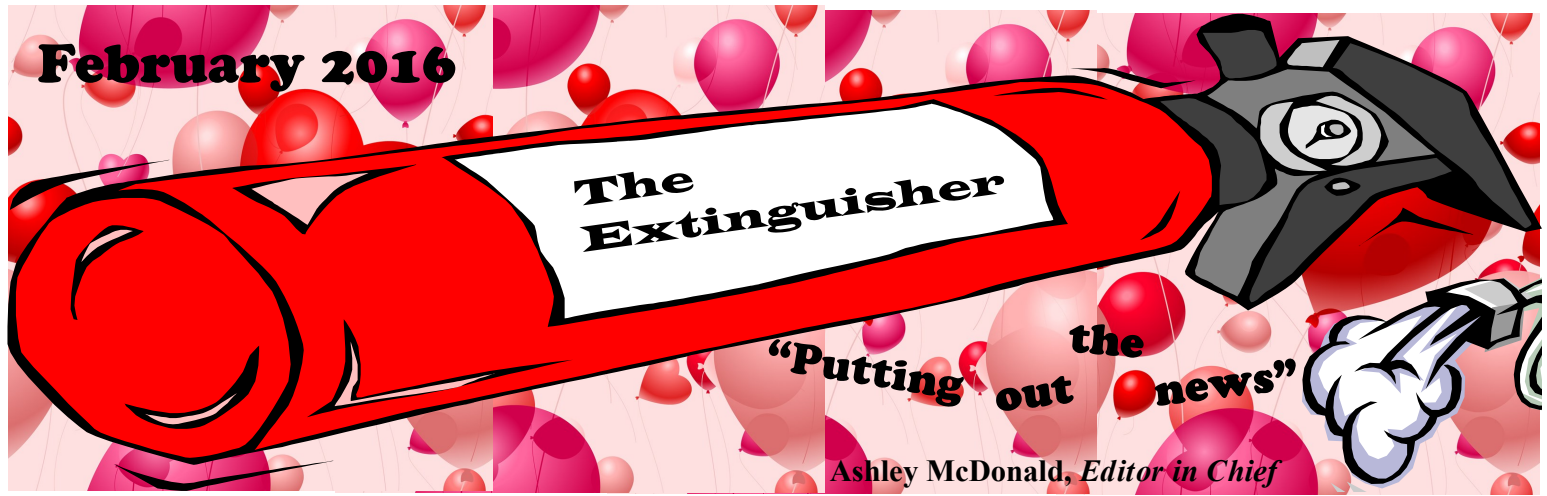


February 2016



Birthdays

Matt Tidwell 2/2
Clay Walls 2/6
Eric Compton 2/8
Duane O'Donnell 2/9
Andy Smithson 2/11
Billy Sauls 2/12
Roy Fugate 2/14
Clay Estes 2/16
Terry Smith 2/17
Jack Black 2/18
Guy Matthews 2/18
Brian Burgess 2/22
Leon Isaac 2/23
Betsy Welcome 2/23
Alveraz Constant 2/26
Nora Smith 2/26
Randy Jones 2/28

*Happy
Valentine's
Day*

MFRD ANNOUNCES CAPTAINS PROMOTIONS

Murfreesboro Fire & Rescue Department's Fire Rescue Chief Mark Foulks recently announced the promotion of four personnel to Captains positions within the department.

Drivers Adam P. Brown and Jason Hayes were promoted to the position of Captain/Shift Inspector, Driver David Frost was promoted to the position of Captain, and Assistant Fire Marshal Tracy Summar will be joining B-Shift as the new Captain/Shift Training Officer.

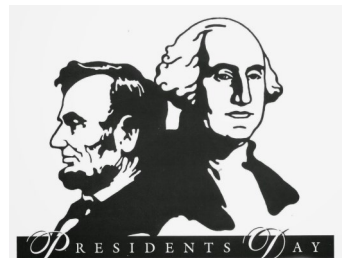
Brown has been with MFRD since January 2005 but has been affiliated with the fire service much longer. He has worked with the Putnam County Fire Department for 14 years, worked with the Baxter Fire Department for six years, and has worked with Putnam County Emergency Medical Services for 12 years. He is an Advanced EMT, Hazardous Materials Technician, and holds an Associate's Degree in Fire Science from Vol State. He was recognized several times in 2014 for his assistance with a mother who delivered her baby at home: a commendation letter from then Fire Chief Cumbeey Gaines, the City's STARS (Succeeding Through Attitudes Reflecting Service excellence), and the NAACP's Jerry Anderson Hero Award. Brown and wife Jamie have two children, daughter Lillian (6) and son Olen (2). Brown enjoys hunting and shooting when not at the fire department. He commented on his recent promotion, "I am looking forward to building a strong professional relationship with a new crew, and working hand-in-hand with them toward bettering the MFRD and the community."

Hayes has been with MFRD since October 1997. He is a certified Hazardous Materials Technician, and is also certified as a Technician in Water, Confined Space, and Rope Rescue. He serves on the department's Apparatus Specifications Committee and has assisted in the purchase of several MFRD apparatus and respective equipment. He also voluntarily spends a lot of time installing and/or removing equipment on apparatus and other department vehicles. Jason and wife Karen have three children, son Caleb (14) and daughters Cameran (11) and Jayden (6). When he is not at the fire station or working at his part-time job, he loves camping with friends and family. Jason is enthusiastic about his new endeavor and said, "I'm fortunate to work with some of the best men and women in the fire service who strive daily to provide quality services to our citizens."

Frost has been with the department since September 2006. He has also served the Shackle Island Volunteer Fire Department for 12 years, where he is currently a Captain and Training Officer. Frost's Bachelor's Degree in Industrial Studies (Emphasis in Mechanical Engineering) from Middle Tennessee State University has helped him to assist MFRD in many ways over the years. He was able to calculate and create drawings that illustrate how close MFRD's aerials have to be to a building to reach a certain point. He also assisted with the department's pre-planning program "Fire Zone," and taught many employees how to use it to create drawings of the layouts of some of the buildings in Murfreesboro. Frost is also very active as a member of MFRD's Grant Committee. He and wife Heather have two boys, Lincoln (2) and John (3 months). As for his spare time, he enjoys spending it with his family, along with a little fishing. "I'm eager to begin my journey as a Captain with the C-Shift crew at Station 3," he said.

City Holidays

**MFRD Administrative Offices
will be closed
Monday, February 15th**



**If you need immediate
assistance, please visit MFRD
Headquarters at 202 E. Vine
Street or contact
615-849-2661.**

Continued on Page 3

TAILBOARD TOPICS: NOVEMBER ANSWER

Q. What are Class B fires?

A. Class B fires involve flammable and combustible liquids and gasses.

Tailboard Topics

Q. A report titled *America Burning*, published by the NCFPC emphasized the need for what?

WALMART MARKETPLACE EMPLOYEES DONATE ITEMS TO STATION

The new Walmart Marketplace located at 2478 New Salem had their Grand Opening on January 27. MFRD's Ladder 9 and Rescue 9 were presented with a 55" television with wall mount and XBOX-1. Employees from the store raised the money to purchase these items for their local fire station.



Pictured (L to R): Firefighter Jacob Follis, Firefighter Britt Gammon, Firefighter Chad Davis, Captain Joe Barrett, Firefighter Joe Pennington, Driver Dwajuan Howse, and Driver Adam Petrig.



TIDWELL NAMED FIREFIGHTER OF THE MONTH FOR FEBRUARY 2016

Firefighter Matt Tidwell has been named Firefighter of the Month for February 2016. He was nominated by co-worker, Driver Ronnie Nobles whose email read:

"In early January, Firefighter Tidwell was off duty and traveling on North Maple Street when the car in front of him made contact with an elderly female who was crossing the street with a walker. Firefighter Tidwell stopped, called 9-1-1, and stayed with her until MFRD's Ladder 1 arrived on scene. It was clear that she was injured, and Firefighter Tidwell tried to keep her as calm and comfortable as he could until more help arrived. Because he had witnessed the incident and stayed with the patient, he was able to help emergency personnel with pertinent details when they arrived on scene. Matt is a wonderful young man. He has a great attitude both on and off the job and it is clear that he has a passion for serving our community."

Tidwell has been with MFRD since August 2015.



CAPTAIN PROMOTIONS CONTINUED...

Summar has been with MFRD since September 1994. He previously served with Lascassas Volunteer Department and eventually became Assistant Chief of that department. He obtained a Fire Science Degree from Vol State and several certifications while at MFRD; his most mentionable certifications were: Fire Inspector (International Codes Council), Fire Investigator (National Association of Fire Investigators), and Fire Investigation and Evidence Collection Technician. He's a current member of the International Association of Arson Investigators and the Tennessee Advisory Committee on Arson. Before becoming the Captain/Shift Training Officer, Summar served as an Assistant Fire Marshal for the department. During his time in the Fire Marshal's Office, he had 100 percent conviction rate on all prosecuted cases. He and wife Lauren have two daughters, Alyssa (20) and Shelby (15). He spends a lot of his time off showing livestock with his girls. Summar commented on his transition back to shiftwork, "I'm excited about becoming the Captain/Shift Training Officer because it will allow me the opportunity to help young firefighters become experienced firefighters, by giving them the tools they need to be successful at MFRD."

Fire Rescue Chief Mark Foulks spoke about the recent promotions, "These four gentlemen stood out among a group of highly qualified applicants. I have no doubt that they will excel in their new positions."



DRIVER VULAR ANDERSON RETIRES WITH 28 YEARS OF SERVICE

Murfreesboro Fire & Rescue Department Driver Michael "Vular" Anderson retired January 15 after 28 years of service.

He began his career on December 5, 1987, when the department was still "Murfreesboro Fire Department." Anderson said, "I was inspired to become a Firefighter because I would visit friends that worked there, and I saw how much they enjoyed their jobs." Anderson would sit and listen to the Firefighters exchange stories of how they helped others, and jokingly remarked, "they could also watch TV and play different games, like marbles." It was at that point that the job began to appeal to him. "I thought, this is the perfect job...you get to serve the community and have a little fun in your downtime." He contacted his then neighbor, Councilmember Robert "Tee-Niny" Scales, who helped him to achieve his goal of getting on at the department. Anderson admitted that things have changed a lot since then. "We don't have much spare time for games these days," he said.

Anderson, who was promoted to Driver in August 2008, said that he has seen many other changes over the years. "It started as a small town fire department to one that offers more programs and outreach to the community," he said. A few other advancements he has seen during his career were more training opportunities, the addition of medical response, inception of a free smoke detector installation program, and air pack use. He also remembers riding tailboard on the back of the engine. "When I started, we had open-cab pumpers from the 50s," he said. "We also used to get hand-me-down turnout gear, but that was all in the past."

When asked where he sees the department in the next five to 10 years, Anderson replied, "I see ambulances in the fire stations, the expansion of MFRD's services, and a much larger department." He also said, "In 10 years, the young Firefighters we have now, will be mentoring and preparing the next generation."

Continued on Page 4

ANDERSON RETIREMENT CONTINUED...

One thing that will not change according to Anderson is the nature of the job, "One of the greatest things about being a Firefighter is being in a position to help others," he said. "Sometimes you are meeting people on the worst day of their life, but when you save them and/or their belongings, you become a blessing to them." He went on to say, "Every shift you have a chance to make a difference in someone's life." Another aspect of the job that Anderson is fond of is the ability to inspire the youth in the community. He plans to continue helping young people in Murfreesboro through volunteer outreach programs.

When Anderson reflects on his career, he thinks about the people that he has met over the years. "I have made some life-long friends working at MFRD," he said. "We have some wonderful and talented people, and I hope that God continues to bless them and watch over them."

He has also created many memories, though some are not so joyful. "My most memorable house fire was on a Monday night on Maymont Drive. Engine 8 was the first engine on scene. A lady that lived there was running up and down the street saying that her husband was in the house, but she could not tell us where he was located. When we got in the house, we were simultaneously fighting fire and conducting a search and rescue. Unfortunately, we did find her husband, but it was too late. He had already perished in the fire." Anderson said that was his most painful experience working for the department and something that it took a long time to get over.

Assistant Chief Kaye Jernigan remembers that fire very well. She was Anderson's Captain at the time and was the Incident Commander until the Shift Commander arrived. "We immediately pulled lines so that we could enter into the house and search. When we found the man and realized that it was too late, our hearts just sunk," she said. "That is a horrible feeling and very difficult to forget." When asked about her time as Anderson's Captain, Jernigan remarked, "It is hard for me to put into words how I feel about Vular. He was part of my crew for several years and became one of my very dear friends. Both on and off the fire scene, you never had to worry... he always 'had your back.'"

Fire Rescue Chief Mark Foulks, who has only had the pleasure of working with Anderson for the past five months, said, "Vular exemplifies the great employees of MFRD. His 28 years of service and dedication and the pride he takes in serving his community is commendable. He will truly be missed."

As for post-retirement, Anderson intends to spend more time with his family, travel, attend more sporting events, and devote more time to his business "Creative Occasions Event Planning." He also plans to start a small advertising/marketing agency. "My main objectives are just to enjoy life and serve my God," he said.



February Anniversaries

31 YEARS

Mark McCluskey

15 YEARS

Chris Ayers
Renard Brown
Brian Burgess
Alveraz Constant
Clay Estes
Melvin Holmes

14 YEARS

Jeff Wright

10 YEARS

Travis Bryant
Daphanie Crenshaw



If you notice MFRD personnel providing exemplary service, displaying professionalism, or representing the City of Murfreesboro in a positive light, please share your experience by nominating them for a Service Excellence Stars Award.

Click here for more information or to [Nominate a STAR](#).

CRUZ MARC PARSONS

SON OF JOSH & HOLLY

BORN: JANUARY 15

7 LBS/8 OZ
20 1/4" LONG

